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*Plus Quam Speravimus:*  
O R;  
The HAPPY SURPRIZE.

---

A  
S E R M O N

PREACH'D at  
*Patching, in Sussex,*  
JANUARY the 20th, 17<sup>14</sup>/<sub>15</sub>.

BEING THE  
Day of ~~T~~ H A N K S G I V I N G  
to Almighty GOD, for Bringing His  
MAJESTY to a Peaceable and Quiet  
Possession of the THRONE; and Disap-  
pointing thereby the DESIGNS of the  
~~P~~retender, and all His Abettors and  
Adherents.

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B Y  
T H O M A S B L E N N E R H A Y S E T T,  
Rector of P A T C H I N G;  
A N D  
Chaplain to the Right Honourable L I O N E L, Earl  
of Dorset and Middlesex.

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L O N D O N:  
Printed for BENJ. COWSE, at the *Rose and Crown*  
in St. Paul's Church-Yard. MDCCXV.

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17-1 JANUARY 1950

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1933 JAN 10

1911


To the Right Honourable

**L I O N E L,**

Earl of *Dorset* and *Middlesex*, &c.

Knight Companion of the Most  
**NOBLE ORDER** of the  
**GARTER.**

MY LORD,

 HE Honour I have Receiv'd, in being Admitted, some Years since, into the Number of Your Lordship's Chaplains, and the Countenance Your Lordship has so undeservedly vouchsafed Me, upon all Occasions, that have occur'd; do Embolden, and Encourage me, to shelter this First Attempt, to Break out of Obscurity, under Your Lordship's Patronage, and Protection.

*If I may Guess, My Lord, at others Satisfaction by my own, the Minds of All True Lovers of their Country, were Fill'd with the most Agreeable Pleasure, and Grateful Sensation; when we were Publickly Inform'd, that Your Lordship was singled out by those Great and Good Patriots, the Major Part of the late Regency; and sent on that Honourable and Important Message, which carry'd to his Sacred Majesty, the First Certain Account of his Actual Accession to the Throne of these Kingdoms. And express'd, at the same Time, the Hearty and Unfeigned Impatience of all His Loving and Loyal Subjects, to be made compleatly Safe and Easy, with his Royal Presence, and Radiant Influence.*

*The General Satisfaction upon this Account, as Great as it was, Came, I doubt not, infinitely short of That, which You your self, My Lord, particularly experienc'd, upon the same Occasion. Which may well be supposed to be very much increased, when Your Lordship attended our Gracious Sovereign, and his Royal Highness the Prince, in their Advances towards us. And was an Eye-Witness of that Manly Joy, and Serious Transports that were shown by their HIGH MIGHTINESSES the States-General, as these Royal Welcome Guests pass'd thro' their Ravish'd Territories. Wherein, all Sorts of Persons seem'd to VYE with each other, and generously contend, who should most Express that Diffusive Gladness, which, at once ran through the whole United Provinces. This*



# DEDICATION.

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*This was the Effect of a strong Affection, and Adherence in these Prudent and Well-Govern'd States, to the Person, Family, and Interest of His Majesty, and His Dominions, both New and Old ; and of the Tender Resentments They Themselves must needs have for the Common Deliverance of Europe, which is the Subject of such Universal Joy. In which, They, who had always been our Faithful, Just, and Necessary Allies, had no inconsiderable a Concern. When They, with many others, were, at long Run, to have been left, by an Unrelenting Party here, to the Blessed Effects of the Superior Genius of a Grand Monarch ; and fall a Sacrifice, to the Barbarous Indolence and Stupidity, to say no worse, of those Guilty Men, that had taken Abundance of Bad Pains, to Make, and show Themselves the Enemies of Christendom , especially, among Protestants.*

*But, the Greatest Part of Your Lordship's Glory, and Joy too, is still behind, which cannot sufficiently be Conceiv'd, much less Tolera-  
bly Express'd. When Your Lordship, among many other Noble Peers of Great-Britain, Encircled and Adorned His Most Excellent Majesty, when He safely Arriv'd at the smiling Shore, of our late Bleeding, and now Blooming Country. Then it was that Your Lordship Heard and Saw, the Sparkling Vital Joy that Flow'd from every Heart and Eye, and yet seem'd a Captive, after all its Lavish Acclamations, and Universal Torrent, and still swell'd the Breasts of a*  
Grateful

Grateful Ransom'd People; *as if it wanted more Mouths, and Tongues, and Hands, than were employ'd, by all Ranks and Degrees of Persons, upon this Memorable, and Ravishing Occasion.*

*But I forget, That I shall Tire Your Lordship, even with this Dear and Pleasing Amusement, which would know no Bounds, if it were not Brought under some due Restraint.*

*And therefore, intreating your Lordship's Favourable Interpretation and Acceptance, of the Freedom I have presum'd to take; I beg leave to Conclude, with this Hearty Request: That, as your Lordship advances in Years, and Honour, and Experience; so, You may increase in all Moral, Political, and Social Virtues: In the Favour of Your Prince, which Your Lordship, already, has so Just a Share in, as a Reward due to Your Lordship's great Merits; and in the Affection, and Esteem of all Faithful, and True Hearted BRITONS. So Prays,*

(May it please Your Lordship,)

Your Lordship's

Feb. the 1st,

1713.

Most Humble Chaplain,

and Devoted Servant:

THOMAS BLENNERHAYSETT

**T**HIS Sermon, which was Ready for the Press, about the Latter End of Last Month, should have been Publish'd sooner, if it had not been Obstructed, by my Distance from London, and several other Incidents: Particularly, the Lateness of our County Election; where we have, at Last, Carried it (Maugre all the Insults and Opposition, of a Broken Ruin'd Party, that is Resolv'd to Die Fighting) for two very Honest, and very Honourable PATRIOTS. Such as it is, both in it Self, and as to its Distance from the Happy Day, and Occasion on which it was Preach'd, I submit to the Candour of all True Friends to our Glorious King GEORGE, and our Excellent Constitution, which Resumes fresh Life and Vigour, from the Benign and Genial Influence, of our Present Rightful Sovereign.

I confess, there is Nothing in this Plain Discourse, which was Design'd for, and Deliver'd to, a very Small, but very Honest Audience; to Recommend it to the Animadversion of the Publick; but the Truth of the Narration, the Honesty of its Intention, and the Fervency of its Zeal. Which have not, Now, been Affectedly Taken up, to suit the Present Posture of Affairs; but have Always been All of a Piece; Steady, and Unshaken, in the Worst of Times.



*I have Nothing to Value my Self upon, but a Resolute Adherence, to our Happy Constitution, and our Glorious Succession; as it has Now, by the Divine Providence, Taken Place Amongst Us. My most Passionate Regards to which, have All Along, Procur'd Me, much Opposition, and Malignity, in the Sphere, and Station wherein I Act; and some Peculiar Hardships, which have been very Grating; but seem Less, than indeed they are, by that Full-Grown Happiness I Enjoy, in Common with my Fellow Subjects, under the Auspicious Reign, of the Best, and Wisest of Princes.*

*My Great Ambition, in this Honest Undertaking, is to Let the World see, that the Defection Among the Clergy, from the Real Interest of their Country, is not so Great, but that there are Many, among whom, I am the Meanest of All, that are, and have been Truly Zealous, and Affectionate for the Publick Good; and have kept Clear from that Justly to be Lamented Contagion, which has too Much of Late Infected all Orders and Degrees of Persons among Us. But, since this Malignant Aspect, is, or will be seasonably Dissipated, and the Genius of our Country has so far Recover'd, its Pristine Health and Honour; it is to be Hoped, that there will be as Great Tendernefs Us'd towards Those of our Brethren, that have Given too Much Cause of Offence, in the Late Ill Management, as is Consistent with the Publick Safety, and is Proper in so Nice and Critical an Affair; which must be Left to the Wisdom, and Justice of the NATION, in the Ensuing Parliament.*



*In the Mean Time ; tho' there has been Great Provocation Given, by Those among Us, that have either been Weak, and Misguided, on the One Hand, or Designedly Wicked, and Worthless, on the other : yet, the Greatest Moderation and Prudence, at this Juncture, will, I Doubt not, be Found very Necessary, Expedient, and Desirable ; were it only, on the Account of the Truly Great, and Good, in the Sacred Order, that have Deserv'd so well of the Publick.*

*These may, it is to be Wish'd, Prove a Skreen and Shelter, in the Day of Enquiry, and Just Resentment, that may not be Far off, for those Unhappy Persons, that are really Inexcusable, before God, and Men : Especially, when it may be Remember'd, that the Almighty would have Spar'd, even a Sodom, if there had been but Ten Righteous Persons in it ; whereas, We have, God Be Praised, many, very many Duplicates, of that Number. To which, We may Add ; that, We have the Fairest Prospect Imaginable, to Believe, that They, that have been most Obnoxious, for their Bad Conduct, and Unwarrantable Practices, among the Pretended Sons of Peace, as well as others, are Like to be as Harmless ( Thanks to Divine Providence, and not their Virtue ) as They will, in Due Time, be Helpless, or Destitute of a Capacity, tho' not a Will, to do Farther Mischief ; when the Disorders of the State, and such Churchmen too, come to be Fully Rectified, and We are Put into the Free, and Lasting Possession, of our Former Tranquillity and Safety, which is, in so Great a Measure, Already Compleated.*

*While*

*While We All Solace our Selves, with the Firm, and  
Pleasing Expectation of so Great a Blessing; which  
is All we want, to Render Us Compleatly Happy:  
I shall think, that I have an Ample Satisfaction, and  
Reward, if I may, by this Free, and Open Declara-  
tion, Approve my Self, as I shall Endeavour Always  
to do,*

*A Dutiful Subject*

Chichester,

Feb. 19.

1713.

*To my Prince,*

*And a Faithful Servant*

*To the Publick,*

**THOMAS BLENNERHASSETT**

**PSALM**



PSALM XXI. 3.

*For Thou preventest Him with the Blessing  
of Goodness; Thou settest a Crown of  
Pure Gold upon his Head.*

**T** H E Subject of this Psalm, is very much  
the Same with the Foregoing; tho'  
Something Alter'd, as to the Form of it.  
For, the People, for whose Use Both  
these Psalms were Compos'd, are Di-  
rected, in the Former, to Join in their Unanimous  
and most Ardent Requests, for the Prosperity and Suc-  
cess, of their Lawful and Beloved King, as David Un-  
doubtedly was: And Herein they are a Bright Pattern  
for All Dutiful and Loyal Subjects in After-Ages. And  
in the Latter, They are Assisted, to Turn the Prayers  
before Put up, in such an Affectionate and Becom-  
ing Manner, into Chearful Praises, and Transports  
of Joy, for the Blessings they had so Signally receiv'd,  
in Answer to their Pious Wishes, and Just Desires.

B

THIS

## *A Thanksgiving-Sermon.*

THIS has been the *Practice* of all *Generous*, and *Well-Disposed Minds*, in all *Concerns*, both of a *Private* and *Publick Nature*. It being *Agreeable* to the *Dictates* of *Reason*, and *Religion*, that the *Divine Goodness* should Humbly be implor'd, and Earnestly applied to, for all *Personal*, and *National Mercies*; which are *Wholly* in God's Power, and at His Disposal. And, that the *Divine Bounty* should be Acknowledged, and Ador'd, whenever *these Blessings* are shower'd down, by the *Liberal Hand* of Heaven, which Dispenses the most *Extensive Blessings*, in *Various Ways*, as well as *Methods*; and makes such an *Open, and Convincing Display* of the *Wisdom* and *Faithfulness*, *Truth* and *Mercy* of God, and all Other his *Transcendent* and *Endearing Perfections*, as should excite " All Men, to Praise the Lord for his Goodness, " and for his Wonderful Works to the Children of Men.

WE need not many Words, to evince the *Exact Correspondence*, between the *Work* we are at Present Engag'd in, and the *Practice* here Recorded, for our Instruction. Both which bear an *Agreeable Proportion* and *Conformity*, to the *General Observation*, before laid down; and should be the *Result* of our most *Grateful Resentments*. Especially, when we consider, how much *Almighty God*, in his *Unspeakable*, and *Undeserved Mercy*, has *Answer'd* our *Prayers*, and *Exceeded* our very *Hopes*; and Bless'd us with such a *Scene* of *Happiness* and *Peace*, by the *Seasonable*, and *Quiet Accession* of our *Present Gracious*, and *Rightful Sovereign*, KING GEORGE, to the *Imperial Crown* of These *Kingdoms*, as is hardly to be *Parallel'd*, in all its *Circumstances*, by the most *Surprising Appearance*, and *Deliverances*, that have Ever been *Vouchsafed* Us, as a *Nation*.

IT is well known, that *Many*, and indeed *All*, that were willing to show, any *Real Concern* for the

Good



## *A Thanksgiving-Sermon.*

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Good of their Country ; and Knew, and Espous'd, and Prosecuted its Truest Interest and Welfare ; and Dar'd to be Resolute, Unbias'd, and Unshaken, when the Iniquity of the Late Ill Administration of Affairs, Ran so High, and seem'd to Bear down All before it. All Such, I say, as Duty consider'd, the Value of their Civil, and Religious Liberties, as Britons, and Protestants ; were Sincerely engag'd in the Commendable Work, that is specified in the 20th Psalm. That is, Praying for that K I N G, whom God, in his Good Providence, had Design'd Us : Or, which is in Effect the same, Praying, that God, in his Own Time, would Transmit Safe to Us, that Protestant Succession, in the Illustrious House of H A N N O V E R, which, Under Him, was our Only Visible Security, both at Home and Abroad.

A N D yet, with Wonder we may speak it ! This very Succession, seem'd to be so Little Thought of, or Mentioned by Some ; or rather, was as much Exploded, at least, Slily, and Maliciously Struck at, as if it had been no Legal or Lasting Establishment, and so, might be Insulted with Impunity, and Reward : Or, as if their Hopes of Setting it Aside, Sooner or Later, were as Promising, and Well-grounded, in their Own Esteem, as their Designs were Real.

N O T W I T H S T A N D I N G which, and the Dreadful Lengths Some ran, in their Endeavours to Sap, or Strike at, the very Root of our Only Bulwark and Defense ; there were Many, and Those, the most Considerable for Honour, Wealth, Ability, and Sound Judgment, that kept Clear of that General Frenzy, and Infection, which had well nigh Hurried the Ignorant, and the Inveterate, into such Ill Sentiments, and Worse Actions, as brought us to the very Brinks of Ruin. But, these Brave Souls knew how, at the same Time, to Preserve their Integrity, in the

midst of *Snares*; stand by their *Country*, when she was almost *Totally Abandon'd*; and be *Firm* to those *Oaths*, and *Engagements*, which so *Many Others* seem'd to have *Forgotten*, or were resolv'd to *Contradict*, and *Sacrifice*, to their own *Particular Views* and *Interests*.

MATTERS were brought to so *Bad a Pass*, that it was grown *Fashionable*, and *Commendable*, to *Run with a Multitude* to do *Evil*: And either *Transact*, or *Approve*, of the most *Destructive Measures* that ever were set on *Foot*, among a *Free-Born People*. And yet *Many*, even *Then*, had the *Honour* and *Happiness*, as well as *Honesty*, to *Stand the Trial* they *Continually* met with, from the *Opposition* and *Contradiction* of *Unreasonable Men*, which was no *Small one*: And had the *Publick Good*, always so much at *Heart*, that they often, both *Secretly* and *Openly*, put up the most *Importunate*, and *Unwearied Requests*, for the *Blessing* we *Now Rejoyce* in. Which *Requests*, may *All* be summ'd up, in that *Just*, and *Genuine Petition*, which you have often heard, *viz.* That *God* would *Preserve* the *Protestant Succession*, against all the *Attempts*, *Designs*, and *Hopes*, of its *Open* and *Secret Enemies*: Who, whatever they may *Pretend*, always *Have been*, *Are*, and *Will be*, when *Ever* they are *Able*, the *Real Patrons* and *Promoters* of a *Popish Prince*, and an *Arbitrary Government*; from *Both* which, the *GOOD LORD*, and the *BRITISH GENIUS*, *Now*, and *Ever* deliver *Us*.

NOR, were such *Desires* left *Unanswer'd*; for, when *Things* were brought to the *Utmost Crisis*, and we seem'd as *Sheep*, just *Ready* for the *Slaughter*; and our *Fears* were so far *Increas'd*, and that *Justly*, as to leave very little *Room* for *Hope*, or any *Tolerable Prospect* of *Escaping*, the many *Impending Miseries*; that;

that, on every Side, Threaten'd us, and were Worse than Death it self. Then, GOD Himself interpos'd, in a most Surprizing Manner; by sending us a Second, and Glorious Deliverer, in many Respects, Like our First, the Immortal KING WILLIAM the III<sup>d</sup>. of Happy Memory, and in some Exceeding Him. Hereby, God soon Disspell'd those Thicke Clouds of Horror and Despair, that Portended nothing less, than a total Subversion of our Excellent Constitution, in Church and State; and Fill'd the Heart of every True Briton, and Good Protestant, with the most Elevated Transports of Joy and Gladness, by the Pleasing Enjoyment, of many Unvaluable Blessings in Hand, and many more, in Reversion, and Hope.

THUS, God has given us Beauty for Ashes, the Oil of Joy for Mourning, and the Garment of Praise for the Spirit of Heaviness; and has put into our Hearts and Mouths, Songs of Deliverance, whereby We, as Ship-Wreck'd Mariners, that can Think of, and Recount with Pleasure, the Horrid Dangers they have Narrowly Escap'd; may Look Back upon our Late Unhappy Circumstances, with the Greater Wonder and Thankfulness.

UPON which Account, we have Just Reason to say, that the Net is broken, and We are Escap'd; and the Pit which was prepar'd for Us, by our Enemies, and Prepared, with as much Haughty Insolence, as Premeditated and Wilful Malice, is not only Discover'd, but we may reasonably hope, Reserv'd for Those that Laugh'd at our Ruin, and Sported with our Destruction.

CERTAINLY This, and much more that might be offer'd, were it not something Improper, on this Joyful Occasion, to dwell too long Here, on such a Black and Melancholy Theme; tho' we shall find it Hereafter very necessary, again to Resume it: All this,  
I say,



I say, may *Warrant* the present *Assembling* our selves together, in the *House of God*, to give *Him* the *Glory* of that *Salvation*, which *He Himself* has *Thus* wrought for us. This is a *Work*, highly *Reasonable* in it self; and very *Agreeable* to the *Copy* that is set us in this *Psalms*, wherein is our *Text*. Which should the *More* be taken notice of, because the *Causes* of our *Rejoycing*, bear a *Near Resemblance* to *Those*, that are *Here* mentioned; and that are *Now* to be considered, to raise our *Minds*, to the *Highest Pitch* of *Affection*, and *Gratitude*. To promote *which*, it may be of *Use* to us, to consider,

I. The *Blessing* it self, that is here *Vouchsaf'd* and *Commemorated*.

II. The *Particular Circumstance*, that makes this *Blessing* the more *Remarkable*, and *Affecting*.

I. The *Blessing* it self, that is here *Vouchsaf'd*, and *Commemorated*.

THIS is to be seen, in the *Latter Part* of the *Verse*; *Thou settest a Crown of Pure Gold upon his Head*. Neither the *Crown* it self, nor its *Lustre* and *Worth*, were any farther *Considerable*, than as they were *Ensigns* or *Tokens* of that *Royal*, and *Excellent Majesty*, that was conferr'd upon *David*; who had been *Singled out*, *Long Before* he came to the *Throne*, and was *Prepared* by *Many Steps*, and through *Various Trials*, for that *High Dignity*, to which he was *Afterwards* advanc'd. Though he was not *Actually*, or *Visibly Invested* with it, till the *Crown*, in a most *Solemn*, and *Publick Manner*, was *Plac'd* upon his *Head*; that



## *A Thanksgiving-Sermon.*

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that all the People, by this Emblem or Evidence, might Take Notice of, and Recognize him, whom God had Chosen, and so Immediately appointed, to this Great, and Important Office.

THERE was indeed, a *Wonderful Appearance*, and *Interposition* of Providence, in the Whole of this *Affair*. For, David was as Far from this Honour, in all Human Appearance, as can well be Imagined. The Rule and Government had been fix'd, by God himself, in another Tribe and Family, in the Person of SAUL. But, as God Made Him King, in his Anger, so he Took him away in his Wrath; for his Bad Management, and Ill Administration; and brought in a New Succession, in the Person and Family of DAVID; who was Nominated indeed, and Fix'd on by God, but Chosen, or Approv'd of, by the People; whose Consent, in Scripture Language, is call'd Renewing, or Confirming, or Settling the Kingdom, how much soever Some have laugh'd at this Sacred Truth.

WITH good Reason, However, is the Divine Agency and Concurrence, Here so Expressly mention'd; Thou hast Set a Crown upon his Head. This is Particularly Acknowledged, as God's Work; for So it was, in a more Remarkable, and Especial Manner, than can Any Way, Now, be Pretended to. Tho' Indeed, in the General; the Disposal of Crowns and Kingdoms, is in the Hand of God, who Putteth down One, and Setteth up Another, as he Pleases: And Entrusts, the Supreme Government of Nations and States, with Such Persons, and for Such Ends, as are Most Agreeable, to his own Will and Wisdom, and may Maintain, his own Glory and Prerogative, who is the only Absolute, and Uncontroulable Potentate, the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

AS Such, He Keeps the Sovereign Right of Universal Empire, in his Own Power, as a Jewel Worthy  
only

only of Himself; and Imparts some Rays of his Supreme Jurisdiction, to his Delegates, and Vicegerents, Here on Earth: For So is every Chief Magistrate, or Head, in every Civil Government, of Every Sort. There being No Form Thereof, so Peculiarly Distinguish'd from the Rest, as to Challenge to it self, a Greater Share, in the Divine Appointment, or Approbation, than Any other: When They are All, of the Like Authority, and the Like Use, when Regulated with such Prudence and Moderation, Equity and Justice, as to Promote the Glory of that God, who has Instituted and Appointed Them; and Procure the Real Welfare and Happiness of Those, that are Requir'd to submit to Them.

IN this Sense, it is, that the Apostle Expressly Asserts, that *there is No Power, but of GOD.* This is not to be Understood so much of Persons, as Things, i. e. Magistracy, and Civil Authority, in General; which may well be said to be of God, because, He has Instituted the Office it self, and He Appointeth, or Permitteth, the Persons that are to Execute it. For, as his Divine Superintendency, Extends it self to all Sublunary Affairs, and Orders, and Over-rules All Things, in Earth, as well as Heaven: So, He may well be suppos'd, to Have a More than Common Regard to this Grand Concern, which is of such General Importance to Mankind.

THUS, we are farther inform'd, That the Powers that BE, are Ordained of God, i. e. this Civil, and Supreme Authority, where-ever it is Lodg'd, is not Simply from God, as all other Things, at First, were; but It is Order'd and Appointed Since, for the Better Government of the World, and to Prevent that General Confusion and Disorder, which must have En-sued, without some Distinction, and Subordination of Persons. Who, upon a Common Level, and Equality,

*lity, could never have Form'd, any Civil Societies, or Bodies Politick, which were Absolutely Necessary, when Mankind was very much Increas'd. Or, if They had Attempted such a Coalition; They could Never have Cemented, or kept long together, without some Just, and Fixed Regulations, which should Oblige All the Members of such Societies, According to their several Offices, and Respective Conditions.*

*THIS seems to be the Original of All Government; which, if Carefully Attended to, would Prevent the Many Mistakes, concerning this Matter, which are, either Ignorantly Entertain'd, by Inconsiderate Persons, or Wilfully Misimprov'd, by Ill Designing Men, to the Worst of Purposes, as we have Found by Sad, and Late Experience. But the Rule is Plain; and the Truth lies in a Little Compass. For, it is Certain, that God has Ordained Government, in General, without Specifying any Particular Mode; when They are All Appointed, and Approved of by Him, as far as They Answer the Design of their Institution, and no Farther. In Regard of which, it is Undoubtedly the Will of Heaven; that some should Govern, and Others Obey, According to the Stated Laws, and Fixed Rules of Each Particular State, and Country; which Always Are, or Should be the Measure, both of the Commands of Those, that are the HIGHER POWERS, and of the Obedience of Those, that are to Submit to them.*

*THUS Far God has Interest'd Himself in Civil Government, and No Farther. And can We think, that such a Wise, and Just, and Beneficent Being, should Concern Himself So Far, without some very Good, and Gracious Design? No Certainly. As his Tender Mercies are Over All his Works; and, as Mankind, has been the Chief Object of his Care and Love, in this Lower World: So, He has*



Instituted and Establish'd this Order, and Distinction of Persons, for the General Benefit. So True is it, that *whoever* is Supreme, in any Kingdom and State, is to be Look'd upon, As the Minister of God, FOR GOOD; nor, can He be said to be His Minister, any Farther, than He Answers this End.

UPON which Account, all Tyrannical, Arbitrary, and Oppressive Princes, are wholly Unworthy of such a Character; and Deserve No Otherwise to be Thought, to be From God, than Famine, Pestilence, or Sword, or any other Publick Calamities, Are So. They are, Indeed, God's Rods, or Scourges, to Chastise and Punish a Sinful Nation: But such Rods, or Punishments, as may be Deprecated, Avoided, and Resisted, by the Same Methods, and with as Much Reason, as any other Temporal Evils *whatsoever*.

BUT Prudent Governors; such, as Make the Glory of God, and the Welfare of their People, their Chief Aim, and SUPREME LAW; may Well be Accounted, the Emblems of the Deity, and the Darlings of Mankind. When, a Nation is so Happy, as to be Rul'd by such Persons, as Acknowledge it, to be their Duty, and their Interest, to Govern by Law; without Making their Own Will, and Pleasure, the Only Standard of their Commands; and Consult the Real Honour, and Happiness of their Subjects, at the Same Time, and by the Same Rules, that They Cherish and Enforce, their own Lawful Authority, and Just Prerogative; and, there is a Generous Emulation, between Prince, and People, who shall most Promote their Mutual Interests, within the Limits Prescrib'd to Each: This is a Pleasing Model of Government, and seems Admirably



## A Thanksgiving-Sermon.

II

bly well Adapted, to Answer all the True Designs, that God, or Man, can Propose, Desire, or Expect.

THIS Happiness, is No where So Conspicuous, or So Fully Enjoy'd, as in GREAT-BRITAIN; wherein We are Blest with a Just, and Limited Monarchy. Tho', this Blessing has sometimes been Eclips'd, or Allay'd, by the Attempts of Weak, or Ambitious Princes; who yet, have Always Felt the Smart, of their Rash, and Illegal Measures. So Tenderly, has Divine Providence watch'd over our Establish'd, and Unvaluable Privileges; that All Endeavours, to Overturn, or Violate our Liberties, either Civil, or Sacred, have Issued in the Confusion, and Disappointment, of those Bold and Guilty Men, that have Dar'd to Break in, upon our Excellent Constitution, or Invade our Just Rights.

BUT, where Matters have Ran in a Clear Channel, and our Princes have Approv'd Themselves, the True Fathers of their Country; and the LAW, as Indeed it is, has been the Fixed Boundary, between the Princes Authority, and the Peoples Obedience; there has Ever been, as Great an Harmony, as Real Happiness. It being, the Genius of all True Britons, to Love MONARCHY, when Duely Regulated, and Legally Exerted; and to Pay a Chearful, Reasonable, and Ready Obedience, to those Wise, and Good Princes, that have Scorn'd, to Strain their PREROGATIVE, Beyond its Just Bounds, or Depress the Common Liberty, Below the Dignity and Privilege, of a Generous, and Free Born People.

SUCH a Prince, was our Late Glorious Deliverer, King WILLIAM; Such, our Late Sovereign, Queen ANNE; 'till the Glories of Her Bright Reign, were Eclipsed and Obscur'd, by the Worst Servants, that ever a Prince Employ'd, and a People So Long Endured. And Such, is our Present

Gracious Sovereign, King GEORGE; if we may be Allowed, to Guess at his *Future Management*, by his *Past Behaviour*.

THIS is the *Very BLESSING*, we at *Present Commemorate*; suitable to the *Example*, Here set Us in the Text. God has made *All Opposition* to Fall before his *Present Majesty*, till He Became our King, and Governor; and has Brought Him, to the *Peaceable*, and *Quiet Possession* of that *Throne*, which had been *Invail'd* on his *Illustrious House*, and *Family*, by the most *Deliberate Acts*, and *Solemn Engagements*. To the *Regret*, and *Rage*, and *Terror*, and *Torment*, of *All that Envied*, or *Oppos'd* our *Happiness*; and the *Boundless Joy*, and, we *Hope*, *Lasting Security*, of *All the Friends* of their *Prince*, and *Country*: Who may well say, that *This is the Lord's Doing*, and it should be *Marvellous in our Eyes*.

FOR, God has, in a *Literal Sense*, Bestow'd the *very Blessing*, for which his *Praise* is so justly celebrated in the Text; when he has Given us a King, both after *His*, and *Our Own Heart*; and has set a *Crown of Pure Gold* upon his Head, by that *Solemn and Publick Inauguration*, which has fill'd the *Hearts* of all his *Loyal Subjects*, with so much *Real Joy*, some *Few Months Since*. And altho', this *Circumstance*, be only a *Decent Ceremony*, and *External Form*; there being no more *Real Authority*, Imprest upon the *Person* of a *Prince*, by It, than *What He was Truly Invested* with *Before*: Yet, it seems to Put a *Greater Mark of Distinction*, *Reverence*, and *Esteem*. Yea, it *Fixes* such a *Legible and Undoubted Character* of *Royalty* upon Him, as must needs Fill his *Fastest Friends*, with a *Pleasing Satisfaction*; confirm *Those* in their *Duty*, that might be *Wavering* in their *Affection*, or Ready to Make some Sort of *Doubt* of his *Right*;

## *A Thanksgiving-Sermon.*

13

*Right*; and Leave those Unreasonable Men, without Excuse, that Dare, Openly, or Secretly, to be his Enemies: When They see Him, Invested with those Ornaments, and Emblems of Majesty, that Proclaim Him, in FACT, or RIGHT, or Both, to be the LORD's ANOINTED.

SUCH an One, is our Glorious King GEORGE, who is Now Crown'd, and solemnly Recogniz'd, to be our Lawful Head; though some were so Wicked, as to Wish or Threaten, that we never should see so Joyful a Day. God has given Us a King, that Begins a New Race of MONARCHS, as David did; and Gives Us the most Agreeable Prospect, of a Lasting Tranquillity and Happiness. Not only by his own many Personal Vertues, and Commendable Qualities, that make Him, Every Way, an Honour to the Crown He Wears; but, by so many Noble Stems of the ROYAL RACE, which we Already Enjoy, and Still Hope for. Which seem to Lay a Foundation, for such Distant Views, and Pleasing Expectations, as Add no small Weight, and Accent to our Present Joy, which could not be so compleat, without Them.

WE Have a Prince, that is Come, to Make Us Happy; and to Force Some to be So, whether They will, or not. A Prince, that has Made such an Excellent Use, of a Sovereign, and Uncontroulable Authority, as may Well Make Us Conclude, that He will Exercise a Limited One, with Great Moderation, and Goodness. A Prince, that is Like to Raise the British GLORY, and INTEREST, to an Higher Pitch, both at Home and Abroad, than the Best of our Kings have ever Advanc'd It: If He be not shamefully Retarded, by Men of the Same Principles, and Spirit, as Those were, that Oppos'd all the Glorious Designs, of the Great King William. In a word; a Prince, who, as He has Resolv'd, to Govern Us by our Own Laws; so, He  
knows



knows how to Punish, all *Wilfull Offences*, and *Gross Affronts*. It being, the *Standing Maxim* of his *Own GREAT SOUL*, and of his *Illustrious Family*; TO REWARD HIS FRIENDS, DO JUSTICE TO HIS ENEMIES, AND FEAR NO MAN.

II. The Particular Circumstance, that Makes *This Blessing*, the more Remarkable, and Affecting.

THIS is to be seen, in the *Former Part* of the Verse; for *Thou Preventest Him*, with the *Blessing of Goodness*. This was True of *Dauid*, in Many Respects. As God had, so Unexpectedly, Advanc'd Him to the Kingdom, and Follow'd Him, with Innumerable other Blessings, by his Frequent, and Signal Appearances for Him, and the Many Victories, and Successes He Afforded Him, against his Many Enemies: as well as, by the Glories, and Benefits that Attended, his Long and Useful Reign, and were Transmitted to his Son and Successor, who had this Distinguishing Character, that there was No Prince, Before, or Since, that ever Equall'd Him, in all Respects.

AND, may not Much of *This*, be Applied to our Own Case, and Occasion of Rejoicing? God has Given Us a SOVEREIGN, every Way Capable to Answer, All We can Reasonably Expect, or Justly Desire: and has Crown'd Him, for Our Benefit, with the Blessing of Goodness, i. e. with the most Excellent Blessings, and with Abundance of them.

AND, this is True, if we not only Consider, his own Family, Territories, and Alliances Abroad, All which Redound, to the Honour, and Advantage of all his People; but, Look upon Him, as Possess'd  
of

## *A Thanksgiving-Sermon.*

15

of the Two Potent, and Flourishing Kingdoms, of GREAT-BRITAIN, and IRELAND; for Such They are, since HE Has Made them So. This Accession of Power, will Make Him, as Considerable to his Friends, and as Terrible to his Enemies, as any One Prince, in Europe: If we Regard, the Honour and Lustre of our NOBILITY, the Wealth and Loyalty of our GENTRY, and the Duty and Affection of our COMMONALTY. Notwithstanding the Surprising Effects, of the Madness and Insolence, of a WORTHLESS MAN, and Contemptible Tool of a Party; which had but Too Much, Intoxicated their Minds, and Blinded their Eyes, and Diverted Them from their Real Interest: Till the Ferment, which Artful Men had Rais'd, upon the most Unjust Grounds, was, in some Good Measure, Dissipated and Removed.

NOW, as if all these Advantages were not Enough, to Enhance, and Endear This Signal Blessing; the Circumstance, that Attended it, and the Manner, in which it was Bestowed, Give a Fresh Lustre, and Farther Beauty to it, and Lay an Higher Obligation on All Those, that Partake of the Common Benefit. For, God has PREVENTED our Gracious Sovereign, with the Blessing of Goodness, both More, and Sooner, than either HE, or WE could Expect: Thereby, Surprising Him with the Gift of the Kingdom, when it might Least be Thought of; and with many Happy Events which Concurr'd, to make his Accession to the Throne, more Speedy, and Uninterrupted, than our Pregnant Fears, and Just Apprehensions, could Suffer Us to Hope for.

THIS will more Clearly Appear, if We take a Distinct View, of the Posture of Affairs, at her Late Majesty's DECEASE; Arising from the Malignity, and Ascendency of that very FACTION, that seem'd

Fully

*Fully Bent, to Overthrow the Protestant Succession, as it was by many Good, and Vigorous Laws Establish'd: and were Resolv'd, to Venture at All, rather than not Compass those Designs, which had Long been Forming, even, Ever Since this Happy Succession had been in View.*

FOR, no Sooner, did the Great King William, Evidence his Tender Care for our Native Country, in which, Many had Made but Ill Returns, for all the Great Things He had Done for Us; and show'd, how Willing He was, to Carry his Views, and Affectionate Concern, beyond the Limits of his own Unvaluable LIFE, by Leaving Us the very LEGACY, We Now Enjoy, the Best, and Greatest, that He could Give, or We Receive. No sooner, I say, did This Blessing begin to Dawn; but the Friends to Arbitrary Government, and the Adherents, or Well-Wishers to the JACOBITE Cause, and Interest, were Alarmed, and Confounded.

AND Altho, They could not Hinder, this Glorious Succession from being Establish'd, by Act of Parliament, which, One would have Thought, might have Quash'd all Farther Thoughts and Designs; yet, They Remain'd Uneasy and Restless, Incens'd and Enrag'd; and Caus'd, such Just Apprehension of Danger; that the Wisdom of the NATION, with the Late Queen, at the Head of it, Thought it Necessary, to Confirm this Sacred Treasure, and Only ASYLUM for our Lives, and Liberties, with Repeated, and, if Possible, Better Concerted SECURITIES. As if, All was Little Enough, to Baffle and Disappoint, the Pernicious Devices of a SET of Men, that seem'd Resolv'd, to Gather Strength out of Despair, and surmount the most Invincible Difficulties, by a Malicious Industry; which was Secretly at Work, when it could not Fully be Discern'd; but Sufficiently Appear'd, to

Warrant



*Warrant our Jealousies, and Make Us Guard against them.*

THUS, Matters stood in *Suspence*, for a Considerable Time, between a *Glorious Ambition*, on the Part of the Government, to *Defend*, and *Seoure Us*; and an *Inglorious Emulation*, and *Envy*, on the Part of our Enemies, to *Unbinge*, and *Endanger Us*. Which Prompted Them, to *Cberish* their *Inveteracy*, when They could not *Gratify* it; and *Reserve* Themselves, and their *Utmost Efforts*, for the *First Opportunity*, that should Offer. In the *Gloomy Expectation* of which, They seem'd *Sullenly*, and *Silently*, to *Stagnate*, or *Stand Still*; till the *Unparallel'd Successes*, of our Ever Renowned GENERAL, the BRAVE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH, Put Them beyond *All Patience*, and *Forc'd* Them to *Discover* Themselves, *More* than their *Deep Designs*, and *Premeditated Disguise*, would, or should have *Suffer'd* Them. It being *Visible* and *Apparent*, that They *Always Repin'd* at our *Advantages*, and *Openly Rejoic'd* in our *Disappointments*; which showed, that They had an *Interest* to *Promote*, *Vastly Different*, from *That* of their *Country*.

THIS, it is Probable, gave *Birth* to that *Hellish Contrivance*, of the *INVASION* in *SCOTLAND*, which *Still* Remains a *Mystery*, in a *Great Measure*; but, has *So Far* Appear'd, of *Late*, that We *Know*, what *PARTY*, and what *SORT* of *Persons*, were *Engaged* in it. But, as *This* was *Disappointed*, in the very *Nick* of *Time*, and no very *Bad Effects* Follow'd; there was *Less Notice* Taken of it, than, it may be, such an *AFFAIR* *Deserv'd*: And so, the *GUILTY* Escap'd, both *Punishment*, and *Discovery*; which seems to be the *Real Foundation*, of *All* the *Unhappy Steps*, that have *Since* been Taken, and the *Wretched Condition*, in which, We were *Afterwards* *Involv'd*.

IT is but *Too Well Known*, that our *Enemies* were not *Disheartned*, or *Diverted* from their *Main Design*; tho' They were *Greatly Disappointed*, by this *ACCIDENT*, for the *Present*. They seem'd *Still Resolv'd*, to Try their *Decisive Experiment*; which was, either to *Gain* their *Grand Point*, or *Fall*, at Once, in the *Attempt*.

FOR, when a *Torrent of Credit*, at *Home*, and *Prosperity*, *Abroad*, had Brought Them to the very *Brink of Despair*; and, They saw their *Grand ALLY*, and *Only Support*, Brought to such a *Pass*, that He was upon the *Point*, of *Sueing* for *Any Peace*, rather than *Have None*; and *Fear'd*, as He has *since* publicly enough *Acknowledged*, that the *Taking of One Town more*, at least, *Another Campaign*, would have Put his *Affairs*, beyond all Possibility of being *Retriev'd*: His *KIND FRIENDS*, but our *DOMESTICK ENEMIES*, did *That* for Him, by their *Too Successful Treachery*, which He could *Never Accomplish*, by *All the Power* of his *Arms*.

IN Order hereunto, They *First Endeavour*, to *Divide*, and *Weaken Us*, by Making the *Press*, and *Pulpit Ring*, with the most *Insnaring*, and *Pernicious Doctrines*, which seem'd, *Before*, to be *Exploded*, or *Quietly Buried* in *Oblivion*: But were *Reviv'd*, on *Purpose*, to *Blacken*, and *Banter* the *GLORIOUS REVOLUTION*, and *Stab* our *HAPPY CONSTITUTION*, in its most *Essential*, and *Vital Parts*. *This*, They Attempted, as by *other Methods*, so, by *Filling* the *Heads* of the *Common People*, by their *Addresses*, and many other *Worse Means*, with such *Wild Notions*, of *PASSIVE OBEDIENCE*, and *Non-Resistance*, in the most *unlimited Sense*; *Hereditary*, and *Undefeasible Right* (and much *More*, to the same *Purpose*, that is *Foreign* to the *LAWS*, and *GENIUS* of our *Country*, and was *Calculated* for

for Another MERIDIAN) that They Soon Turn'd the Brains, of the *Unthinking Multitude*, and Made Them *Accessory*, to All the *Evils* that Ensued.

IT is *Amazing* to Reflect, how *Insensibly* this CONTAGION work'd, and *Effectually* spread it self, even, beyond their own most *Sanguine Imaginations*; which Produc'd *Surprizing Changes*, for the WORSE, and Put our *Enemies* into a Capacity, of Throwing off the *Mask*, and Acting without *Controul*, and Abusing that *Power*, They so *Unaccountably Gain'd*, to Promote their *Avowed Designs*; and Turn, all the *Happiness* We Enjoy'd, under the BEST MINISTRY, that ever a Nation was *Blessed* with, into a *Melancholy Scene*, of *Darkness*, and *Despair*.

AS a *Prelude* to which, They Brought off their COMMON BARRETOR, and VILE CHAMPION, with so *Slight a Punishment*, as Render'd that *Wound Incurable*, which was very *Doubtful Before*; and Puff't up, that VAIN MAN, who *Valued Himself*, for his *Accidental Success*, with so much *Pride* and *Insolence*, as *Embolden'd Him*, to *Insult the Justice* of the Nation, and *Break the Publick LAWS*, and *PEACE*, in a most *Riotous*, and *Tumultuary Manner*. This was *Directly Contrary*, to his *Beloved Principles*, of *Unreserved Obedience*; which were but *Wretchedly Explain'd*, and *Uncouthly Illustrated*, by so *Contemptuous*, and *Irregular a Deportment*, as came near to REBELLION, and TREASON.

THE Consequence of *This*, and many other *Sad Occurrences*, was the *Dissolution* of that TRUE BRITISH PARLIAMENT, which ought never to be *Forgotten*, by all *Sincere Lovers* of their Country; and *Choosing Another*, in its Room, Compos'd of *Persons*, of *Quite Different PRINCIPLES*, and PROSPECTS. *Dismissing a SET of Wise, Honest, and Faithful MINISTERS*; and Taking *Those*, in



their *Stead*, that were *Ready*, to Come into *Any Measures*, that should be *Propos'd*. Discarding our **VICTORIOUS GENERAL**, in a *Manner*, very *Disagreeable* to a *Generous Mind*; and *that*, for no other *Crime*, but Doing his **DUTY**, and Almost Accomplishing the *Grand Work*, of *Reducing*, our *Then* **COMMON ENEMY**, to *Reason*. *Abandoning* our **ALLIES**, in the very **HOUR** of *Distress*; *Disjointing* the most *Formidable* **CONFEDERACY**, that *Ever* was *Form'd*: Making a **SEPARATE PEACE**, contrary to the **PUBLICK FAITH**: Forcing **OTHERS** into it, *Sore* against their *Wills*; and *Leaving* the **REST**, to shift for *Themselves*, as *They* could.

**BY** such *Methods*, as *These*, We *Lost*, at *Once*, the only *Favourable Opportunity*, we are ever *Like* to *Enjoy*, of *Settling* the **TRANQUILLITY**, and **BALLANCE** of **EUROPE**; and We were *Forc'd* to *Take up*, with the most *Scandalous*, *Dishonourable*, and *Prejudicial* **PEACE**. Whereby our **TRADE** is *Wholly Given up*, and *Our Selves* are *Left Naked*, and *Contemptible*: And **FRANCE** is *Rais'd*, to an *Higher Pitch* of *Glory*, and *Power*, than *Ever* She *Enjoy'd Before*. As an *Evidence* of *Which*, We see, all the *Seeming Advantages*, that were *Granted*, *Frustrated*, and *Ravish'd* from *Us*, before our *Eyes*; and such *Gross Indignities Offer'd*, as will make *Future Ages Conjecture*, that **WE** *Always* had been *Vanquish'd*, in the *Whole Course*, of the *Late War*.

**THESE** are *Sad Truths*; but *They* may have *This Good Use*, *viz.* *Serve to Enhance* the *Present Blessing*, and *Illustrate* this *Remarkable Circumstance*, that *God* has **PREVENTED** our *Great Deliverer*, with the *Blessing of Goodness*.

FOR,

FOR, *All* that has been *Review'd*, and *Review'd*, at Present, does *Evince*, even to a *Demonstration*, that the *Great Design* of all these *WRONG STEPS*, was to *Set Aside* the *PROTESTANT SUCCESSION*; which *Nothing*, but the very *Measures*, that were Taken, was *Ever Able* to *Overthrow*.

HOW else, can We *Account*, for Persons being so *Unreasonably Fond*, on a *Sudden*, of the *Notions* of *Undeasible*, and *Unalienable Right*, and the *Like*, which have So *Industriously*, of *Late*, been *Advanc'd*? Unless, it were *Stily* to *Oppose*, a *PARLIAMENTARY ONE*; which is the *True Foundation*, of our *Gracious Sovereign's JUST PRETENSIONS*, and *PRESENT POSSESSION*: and *Therefore*, *Struck at* by *Those*, that would *Gladly* have *Defeated BOTH*. What *other Reason* can be *Given*, for that *Strange Indifference*, and *Coldness*, to the *HOUSE of HANOVER*; and, which is *More*, of those *Palpable Indignities* and *Affronts*, that were, *Many Ways*, put upon it, beyond what was ever *Seen*, or, at any *Time*, *Evidenc'd*, but upon so *Tender a Point*, and in so *Nice a Conjunction*?

IS it not *Farther Notorious*? that We had no *Stated Resident*, in that *COURT*, for a *Considerable Time*; which was a *Proceeding* so *Unprecedented* and *Inconsistent*, that We have no other *Way*, *Tolerably* to *Explain* it, than to *Observe*; that, *This Look'd Like* a *Resolute Design*, in *Those* that were at the *Helm of Publick Affairs*, to *Discover* to *All Europe*, their *Slender Attachment* to the *PRESUMPTIVE HEIR*; or *Rather*, their *Fixed Attempt*, *Mortally* to *Oppose Him*: *Tho'*, the *Fatal Part* of this *Transaction*, is *Like Justly* to *Fall upon Themselves*.

This

This *Avowed Enmity*, and *Injurious Opposition*, was so far from a *Secret*, that they seem'd *Willing*, to Do *All They Well* could, not to *Conceal* it. Which is no *Rash Conjecture*, or *Forced Conclusion*, when We Remember, with *Amazement*, that our *WISE MANAGERS*, at *Home*, were so *Jealous*, lest *This Succession*, which was the *Wish*, and *Hope* of *All Good Men*, should be *Too well Secur'd*; that They *Alter'd* the *BARRIER TREATY*, with the *STATES GENERAL*, whom They, at the same Time, *Accused*, and *Calumniated* with *Forged*, and *Imaginary Crimes*: That They might make the *SECURITY*, which Arose, from *Their* being *GUARANTEES* to it, the most *Precarious*, and *Ludicrous Thing*, in Nature.

TO *Sum up All*, in a Few Words; It is *Still Fresh*, in the *Memories* of *Most*, that They not only *Refus'd*, to Pay the *Hanover Troops*, for some Years, under the Notion of *DESERTERS*, because, They would not *Blindly Abandon* the *COMMON CAUSE*; which was but an *Awkward Way* of showing a *Good Understanding*, and *Correspondence*, which They *Ridiculously Enough* Pretended to: But. They were even *Planet-Struck*, when a *WRIT* was Demanded, for his *Royal Highness*, to Take his *Place* in *Parliament*, as a *PEER* of *Great-Britain*.

THIS Fill'd Them with the *Greatest Disorders*, for *the Time*; and Made Them send away his *Majesty's ENVOY*, with *Disgrace*; as They had Before Done, by *ANOTHER*, for that *Excellent MEMORIAL* of *His*, which ought to be *Writ* in *Letters of Gold*. At Last, They Rais'd such a *CLAMOUR* about it, and Made such *Harsh Remonstrances*, as Amounted Almost to *Threats*, and *Menaces*: And, in the *Whole*, Display'd so much  
GUILT,



**GUILT**, and **RAGE**, in their *Countenances, Speeches, and Actions*, that We may *Justly Apply* to *Them*, the *Language and Despair*, of their **GRAND PATRON**, in Another Case, **ART THOU COMEING TO TORTMENT US, BEFORE THE TIME?**

**THIS** Time came, at *Last*, and *Sooner*, than was *Expected*; when the *Fatal Blow*, was *Just Ready* to be *Struck*; and our **BLEEDING LIBERTIES**, together with *That*, of all *Europe*, especially, among *Protestants*, were *Ready* to *Expire*; and We had *Nothing Almost Left*, but *Sadly* to *Expect*, a *Deluge of Destruction*.

**THIS** was *Justly* to be *Apprehended*, when We had *Liv'd* to see, **FRANCE** and **SPAIN**, *United* in the *Same Family*; to *Prevent Which*, was the *Chief End* of the **LATE WAR**. The *Main Articles* of *Peace* **ELUDED**, and *Improv'd* to our *Detriment*. A *Great, and Illustrious Prince* **Baffled**, and *Bullied* by a *Vassal* of *France*, and *Made* the *Ridicule*, and *Contempt* of *Europe*. Men *Enlisted*, for the *Service* of the **PRETENDER**; and vast *Numbers* of *Troops*, in a *Readiness*, either to *Dispossess* her *Late Majesty*, of the *Throne*, or, to *Hinder* his *Present Majesty*, from *Attaining* it; which seem'd *Indeed*, to be their **MASTER GAME**, and *Darling Contrivance*.

**WHEN** our *Danger* and *Distress*, *Appear'd* with such *Ghastly Horror*, and our *Hearts*, and *Hopes*, were *sunk* into an *Impotent Languishing*, and *Tormenting Impatience*; then *God Arose*, and *Took* the *Work* into his *Own Hands*, that *He Himself*, might have all the *Glory*; and sent *Us* a *Deliverer*, in our *Last Extremity*; and *Chang'd*, the *Former Scene*, out of which, We were *Unable* to *Extricate* our selves, by *Any Humane Help*, into the *Greatest Wonder*,

*Wonder, and Joy. The Surprise of which, was so Great and Glorious, that We Still seem, Like Those that Dream; and can Hardly Believe, to be sure, not Enough Prize, our Present Happiness. Nor, should we Know any Measure, or End, of such Agreeable Resentments, if the ILL WILL, and ILL CARRIAGE of our Disappointed, and Enraged Enemies, did not Still Alarm, and, as Much as Ever, Awaken Us, to a Just Precaution, and Due Concern, to Obviate and Oppose their Lurking Malice, and Endeavour to Defeat their Fresh Designs.*

*BUT, whatever These may be, as it is no Hard Matter to Guess at them, by their Present Conduct: yet, no Apprehensions of this Nature, should Obstruct, or Lessen our Present Rejoicing; when God has so Wonderfully Prevented, and Happily Surpriz'd Us, with this Great Blessing, of His Majesties Peaceable Accession to the Throne; as well as, PRESERV'D Him to it. For Which, We have Little Reason, to Thank those in the Late Administration; who are Glad Indeed, NOW, to Applaud Seemingly, what they could not Prevent Effectually: And, would Falsely Argue, that there was No Danger, because We, by a Miracle of Mercy, have Escap'd it.*

*WHATEVER Lame Excuses such would Make, and Wretched Disguises Put on, and Sorry Artifices Employ, to Skreen Themselves from PUBLICK JUSTICE, at Least, from Publick Observance: yet, let not Us Lose, the Pleasure of our Present Gladness, which Arises, in a Great Measure, from the Consideration, of the Nearness of our Ruin, and the Difficulty of our Escape. But, let Us Lay All these Things Together, which have been Represented, in the Best Manner, I was Capable of, to Fill our Minds with Thankfulness and Praise, to the GOD of all our National, as well as Personal Mercies; and to*  
*Make*

## *A Thanksgiving-Sermon.*

25

Make Us All Unite, our Hearts and Mouths, in this Just Sentiment, and Open Confession, that This is the DAY, which the LORD hath Made, and Honoured, in an Especial Manner, We will therefore Rejoice, and be Glad in IT.

NOR, is it Possible, that We should Manifest a Becoming Thankfulness, for this so Divine, and Desirable a Blessing; unless, we show forth, the Influence of our Humble Praises, and Cheerful Gratitude, by the Fruitfulness of our Lives, and Conversations. This Alone, can Render our Present Service, and Acknowledgment, Acceptable to God, and Profitable to our Selves: and be a Means to Secure, and Transmit the Present Blessing, to our Latest Posterity, who have a Considerable Interest, in Our Conduct and Behaviour.

LET Us therefore, Endeavour to Glorify God, More, and Better, than Ever Yet We have done, by a Due, and Regular Improvement, of all our Inestimable Privileges, and Liberties, as Britons, and Protestants; and a Careful Abstinence, from all those Craving Sins, which may, Yet, Provoke the Lord to Jealousy, and Make Him, after all this Great Salvation, which He has Wrought for Us, from First, to Last, send Down those Desolating Judgments, that may Still be in Reserve, for a Disobedient, and Incurrible People.

LET Us also, Do All that in Us Lies, in our several Stations, and Capacities, and Circumstances of Life, to Make the Reign of His Present Majesty, Easy, and Agreeable to Him, by our Endeavouring to Lead Peaceable, and Quiet Lives, Under Him, in all Godliness and Honesty; Contributing, According to our Ability, to the Common Tranquillity, and Welfare; and Cultivating, such Brotherly Love, and Charity, and

E

Uni-



*Universal Benevolence, Among our Selves, that No Disorder, or Division may Any More be seen, nor any other Contention, or Strife, than who shall show most Duty, and Obedience to His SACRED MAJESTY; as well as Affection to HIM, and His ROYAL ISSUE, which are the Surest Pledges, of our Lasting Happiness.*

FOR which Cause, We may well Conclude, with this Heartly Petition, That God would Long Continue our DEAR, and DREAD SOVERAIGN, upon the Throne of These Kingdoms; and Give Us a SOLOMON, to Reign over Us, in the Person of His Royal Highness, GEORGE PRINCE OF WALES, after this our BRITISH DAVID: and a Durable Succession, by His Most Excellent, and Illustrious CONSORT, which may Remain, as Long as the World it self Shall do.

WHICH God Grant, of his Infinite Mercy; and Let All the People say,

A M E N.

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F I N I S.